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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (withdrawn)

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (withdrawn)

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (withdrawn)

Claim 6 (cancelled)

Claim 7 (withdrawn)

Claim 8 (cancelled)

Claim 9 (currently amended) A process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers comprising the steps of:

- a Preparing a first printed circuit board comprising at least one stator, at least one electrical circuit, and a surrounding membrane holding means;
- b Preparing an opposing membrane holding means, said opposing membrane holding means comprising a surrounding membrane holding means; and
- c Affixing a membrane between said printed circuit board and said opposing membrane holding means;

wherein said at least one electrical circuit situated on the printed circuit board connects to said at least one stator, and at least one electrical circuit situated either on said printed circuit board or on said opposing membrane holding means connects to the membrane, and wherein, in affixing the membrane between said printed circuit board and said opposing membrane holding means, a central speaker area is situated internal to an ~~the~~ area defined by the surrounding membrane holding means, said central speaker area having a space sufficient to permit said membrane to

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vibrate without contacting any part of, or transferring a charge from the membrane to, the printed circuit board or the opposing membrane holding means, said sufficient space provided either by: (i) preparing the surrounding membrane holding means on one or both sides of the membrane with sufficient height; (ii) preparing the printed circuit board and preparing the opposing membrane holding means, such that each part's central speaker area has sufficient space; (iii) providing an additional means for spacing between the membrane and the printed circuit board and the opposing membrane holding means; or, providing the sufficient space by a combination selected from (i), (ii) and (iii).

Claim 10 (original) The process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 9 wherein said printed circuit board, said opposing membrane holding means, or both, are provided with at least one aperture to facilitate the passage of acoustical signals beyond said electrostatic speaker.

Claim 11 (original) The process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 10 wherein the surrounding membrane holding means of the printed circuit board is prepared with at least one continuous ridge surrounding the central speaker area, and the opposing membrane holding means is prepared with at least two parallel continuous ridges, wherein, during affixing the membrane, the membrane is positioned and tensioned by the parallel ridges of the surrounding membrane holding means and the opposing membrane holding means press the membrane into valleys between the ridges of the opposing structure as the printed circuit board and the opposing membrane holding means are affixed together.

Claim 12 (original) The process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 11 wherein the opposing membrane structure comprises a printed circuit board.

Claim 13 (original) The process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 12 wherein said first printed circuit board, said printed circuit board that comprises said opposing membrane holding means, or both of said printed circuit boards, additionally comprise a metallic shielding means covering a sufficient portion of the exterior layer of said one or both printed circuit boards to reduce transmission of electromagnetic radiation beyond said electrostatic speaker.

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Claim 14 (original) The process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 12 wherein the opposing membrane structure comprises a printed circuit board, said printed circuit board additionally comprising at least one stator and electrical circuitry connecting to said at least one stator.

Claim 15 (original) The process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 12 wherein the first printed circuit board, the opposing membrane holding means, or both, are prepared with electrical connections for the connection of at least one external source of electrical impulses to said electrical circuitry.

Claim 16 (original) The method of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 13 comprising the additional steps of: attaching a blind cavity distal to one PCB to form a sound box.

Claim 17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (cancelled)

Claim 19 (currently amended) A process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers comprising interposing and affixing a chargeable membrane between a first side and an opposing side, wherein

- i) said first side is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (1) a PCB comprising at least one stator, electrical circuitry to the at least one stator, and a raised structure integral with the PCB that surrounds a central speaker area such that said raised structure contacts the membrane; and,
 - (2) a PCB comprising at least one stator and electrical circuitry to the at least one stator, and a separate raised structure that surrounds a central speaker area such that said separate raised structure contacts the membrane; and,
- ii) said opposing side is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (1) a PCB comprising at least one stator, electrical circuitry to the at least one stator, and a raised structure integral with the PCB that surrounds a central speaker area such that said raised structure contacts the membrane;

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- (2) a PCB comprising at least one stator and electrical circuitry to the at least one stator, and a separate raised spacing structure that surrounds a central speaker area such that said spacing structure contacts the membrane;
- (3) a fastening structure disposed peripherally to a central speaker area, whereby said fastening structure contacts the membrane over or lateral to said raised structures of said first side;
- (4) an opposing structure that spans the central speaker area, comprising a raised structure positioned to meet the first side's raised structure, whereby said opposing side raised structure contacts the membrane, and,
- (5) an opposing structure that spans the central speaker area, and a separate raised structure positioned to meet the first side's raised structure, whereby said opposing side raised structure contacts the membrane; and

(iii) a means for conducting a charge to said membrane is provided, and ~~The process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 1~~ comprising the additional step of separating, ~~as by cutting, heating, or pressing, the~~ an excess membrane situated distal to said raised or separate structures contacting said membrane.

Claim 20 (currently amended) The process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 19 comprising the additional step of heating ~~an affixed ESL~~ the first side, the opposing side, and the membrane for a sufficient time to make the membrane taut.

Claim 21 (currently amended) The process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 20 wherein said first side and said opposing side, or both, are provided with at least one aperture to facilitate ~~the~~ a passage of acoustical signals beyond said electrostatic speaker.

Claim 22 (original) The process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 21 wherein said raised or separate structures contacting said membrane on either side are prepared from a group consisting of:

- a. a roughened contacting surface having a high friction coefficient;
- b. a contacting surface designed to receive adhesive effectively over a relatively broad area; and

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- c. opposing sets of parallel ridges, one structure having at least one ridge, and the other structure having at least two ridges, where an opposing ridge interposes between two ridges on the other structure continuously around the central speaker area.

Claim 23 (currently amended) The process of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 22 wherein at least one plate, peripheral to and surrounding the raised ~~structures~~ structure contacting said membrane, supports the compressive forces from fastening means that affix the membrane between said first side and said opposing side.

Claim 24 (currently amended) The method of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 22 wherein the method of affixing said membrane between said first side and said opposing side employs evenly spaced screws, nuts and bolts, clips with holes for clips on the opposing side, where the clips attach under tension to ~~the~~ a distal end of such holes, or similar mechanical attachments between said first and second printed circuit boards.

Claim 25 (currently amended) The method of manufacture of electrostatic speakers according to claim 22 wherein one side, selected from the group consisting of the first side and the opposing side, of the ESL has a single aperture, additionally comprising fitting onto said aperture upon which a tube is fitted to for transfer of acoustical signals directly to a listening subject.

Claims 26-33 (cancelled)

Claim 34 (new) The process of claim 9, wherein at least one electrical circuit, situated on said opposing membrane holding means, connects to the membrane.

Claim 35 (new) The process of claim 19, wherein said interposing and affixing is with said opposing structure comprised of the opposing structure of 19(ii)(4), additionally comprising at least one stator and electrical circuitry to the at least one stator.

Claim 36 (new) The process of claim 19, wherein said interposing and affixing is with said opposing structure comprised of the opposing structure of 19(ii)(5), additionally comprising at least one stator and electrical circuitry to the at least one stator.

Claim 37 (new) The process of claim 19, said separating being selected from the group consisting of cutting, heating or pressing.